

April 17, 2013

Please note that news sites update their hyperlinks, so it is advised that articles of interest be read soon as they might not be accessible later.

The Detroit News: Michigan Supreme Court works in Midland for a day

"School is in session at the Michigan Supreme Court. Michigan's highest court is on a road trip Wednesday, hearing a case at the Midland Center for the Arts with students from area high schools and colleges in the audience."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Associated Press: Michigan Supreme Court works in Midland for a day

[Full story](#)

Note: The article ran in WNEM-TV(5)/Saginaw.

Law Day comes early to Midland: Michigan Supreme Court to visit April 17

[Press release](#)

Bay City Times: Michigan Supreme Court names new chief judge of Midland County courts

"The Michigan Supreme Court has appointed Midland County District Judge Stephen P. Carras as the county's chief judge. In his new position, Carras will oversee the county's probate, district and circuit courts. Carras succeeds Jonathan E. Lauderbach, who resigned as Midland County Chief Circuit Court judge on March 1."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The MiLW Blog: High court makes chief judge, business court appointments

[Full story](#)

Hon. Stephen P. Carras appointed chief judge of Midland courts

[Press release](#)

Detroit Free Press: Blackwell gets probation, ordered to repay \$264,000

"Former Highland Park emergency financial manger Arthur Blackwell II was ordered to pay \$264,000 in restitution today in a case that has dragged on for more than three years.... The plea came after the Michigan Court of Appeals reinstated criminal charges against Blackwell. Wayne County prosecutors initially charged Blackwell with embezzlement."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Ex-Highland Park EFM Blackwell put on probation, told to repay \$264K

[Full story](#)

MLive.com: Former Highland Park EFM Arthur Blackwell won't serve jail time

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: Settlement approved in Muslims' suit against McDonald's

"A judge has finalized a \$700,000 settlement between McDonald's and members of Michigan's Muslim community over claims a Dearborn restaurant falsely advertised food as prepared according to Islamic law. Wayne County Circuit Court Judge Kathleen Macdonald gave the OK at a hearing Wednesday."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Detroit News: Deal approved in Muslims' suit against McDonald's

[Full story](#)

Associated Press: Deal approved in Muslims' suit against McDonald's

[Full story](#)

Detroit Free Press: New trial sought for Macomb woman convicted of drowning grandson

"Lawyers for a Macomb County grandmother who is to be sentenced Wednesday to life in prison in the forcible drowning of her 4-year-old grandson in 2010 filed a motion for a new trial. The sentencing for Terry Borgia, 63, is expected to occur as scheduled in Macomb County Circuit Court, lawyers on both sides said."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

The Macomb Daily: Grandmother's sentencing adjourned

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Supreme Court rejects routine no-warrant DUI blood tests

"The [U.S.] Supreme Court ruled Wednesday that police usually must try to obtain a search warrant from a judge before ordering blood tests for drunken-driving suspects. The justices sided with a Missouri man who was subjected to a blood test without a warrant and found to have nearly twice the legal limit of alcohol in his blood."

[Full story](#)

The Detroit News: Fire damages Old Macomb County building

"A fire broke out inside the Old Macomb County administration building on North Main Street on Wednesday morning.... The 16th Judicial Circuit Court and the new Macomb County Administration Building were evacuated as well because all three building are connected by an underground tunnel."

[Full story](#)

Also see:

Detroit Free Press: Fire evacuates county building in Mt. Clemens

[Full story](#)

The Macomb Daily: Fire forces evacuation of two county buildings

[Full story](#)

The Alpena News: Pinwheel garden event Friday

"The Alpena/Presque Isle Child Abuse and Neglect Prevention Team will be presenting a pinwheel garden in front of the Alpena County Annex Building on Friday from 11-1 p.m., to build awareness of child abuse and neglect in the community and unite those who are willing to fight against this growing problem.... The team also will hold a press conference at 12 p.m. during the pinwheel garden presentation with Judge Thomas LaCross, who is a member of the team and presides over family court."

[Full story](#)

C & G Newspapers/Warren: Roseville's sobriety court changing lives

"Each of their stories was unique, but the six men and women seated in the jury box shared one thing in common — they had gotten pulled over while intoxicated, more than once; but instead of the repeat offense landing them behind bars, they were given the chance to make a change. On April 10, Roseville Judges Marco Santia and Joseph Boedeker presented certificates to six graduates of the 39th District Sobriety Court."

[Full story](#)

Flint-Genesee County Legal News: Justice Kelly to receive WLAM's Coleman Award

"After 24 years, Justice Marilyn Kelly recently retired from the Supreme Court. She was Chief Justice from 2009-2011. In 2010, she and James L. Ryan, senior judge of the U.S. Court of Appeals for the 6th Circuit, established the Michigan Judicial Selection Task Force."

[Full story](#)

Grand Rapids Press: Judge who fined himself \$25 for smartphone mishap surprised by fame

"Tonia Judge Raymond Voet - whose ringing phone made headlines last week when he fined himself for the courtroom faux pas - said he's been surprised by the international attention the incident has generated. In the last few days, he's made new fans in Europe and Australia. And media from Inside Edition and the Wall Street Journal have come knocking to tell his story."

[Full story](#)

Kalamazoo Gazette: Kalamazoo County administration proposes deal with Portage for Shaver Road courthouse

"The Kalamazoo County Board of Commissioners will likely vote at their May 7 meeting whether to amend an agreement with the city of Portage for the Shaver Road courthouse, now that the Kalamazoo County District Court there has closed.... The district courthouse closed in March after the retirement of Judge Carol Husum from the bench. The closure came after years of debate if the courthouse should remain."

[Full story](#)

The MiLW Blog: Bill for MCCA audits, FOIA requirements is introduced in House

"... In January, an Ingham County Circuit Court ruled that the MCCA must open up records related to its financial standing, and explain how it comes up with its \$175 annual fee per auto. The next month, Judge Clinton Canady III refused to suspend his ruling pending MCCA's appeal. That ruling stemmed from a lawsuit filed by the Coalition Protecting Auto No-Fault and the Brain Injury Association of Michigan, who want to obtain financial information under the Freedom of information act."

[Full story](#)

Muskegon Chronicle: Muskegon judge refuses to cut alleged witness intimidator's \$500,000 bond

"[Muskegon County District Judge Harold F. Closs III] Tuesday refused to reduce the \$500,000 cash bond for David Jesse Hunt, a Muskegon ex-convict charged with witness intimidation and gun counts for allegedly threatening a witness expected to testify against him, then firing bullets into her empty car."

[Full story](#)

Three Rivers Commercial-News: Virtual courtroom

"Prisoners held in out-of-county facilities can 'appear' in St. Joseph County courtrooms without leaving their places of incarceration thanks to a Michigan Supreme Court grant that has placed HD video monitors in each of the county's courts. St. Joseph County Circuit Court Judge Paul Stutesman demonstrated the equipment following a recent court session and reports that the system is designed to cut costs and reduce the time needed in transporting prisoners or in sending state witnesses to courts for testimony."

[Full story](#)

Traverse City Record-Eagle: Editorial: Specialty courts way to break cycles

"The future of the judicial system may not be around the corner, and it may not look just like this. But in Grand Traverse County, three 'specialty' courts — sobriety, veterans and mental health — are helping

create new outcomes for people who might otherwise find themselves on the slippery slope toward long-term jail time.”

[Full story](#)